

TABLE 1. COMPARISON OF NORTH KOREAN AND ROK
COMBAT POWER ON THE EVE OF THE KOREAN WAR

| Classification | North Korea | ROK |
|--------------------|---|--|
| Infantry divisions | 10 divisions (30 reg- iments) 5 divisions were from Communist China Most high-ranking of- ficers were from the USSR and China | 8 divisions (22 reg- iments) 1 artillery battalion per division (91 pieces) |
| Tank Units | 1 tank brigade 242 tanks (T-34) self-propelled artillery Mechanized Infantry Regiment (560 side cars) | None (27 armored cars) |
| Air Force | 1 air division 211 airplanes 4 AK-9 and IL-10 | 8 liaison planes 14 training craft |
| Navy | 30 vessels 3 bases | 28 vessels 5 bases |
| Total strength | ground: 182,860 naval: 13,700 air: 2,000 | ground: 95,000 naval: 8,800 air: 1,800 |

Table compiled by Lee Suk Bok in The Impact of US Forces in Korea
(National Defense University Press: Washington, D.C., 1987), p.40.

Table 2 Active and Reserve Military Personnel and Equipment, South and North Korea, 1975

| <i>Branch of service, personnel, and type of equipment</i> | <i>South Korea</i> | | <i>North Korea</i> | |
|--|--------------------|---|---------------------|---|
| | <i>Number</i> | <i>Breakdown or description</i> | <i>Number</i> | <i>Breakdown or description</i> |
| Total active armed forces | 625,000 | | 467,000 | |
| <i>Army</i> | | | | |
| Active personnel | 560,000 | | 410,000 | |
| Reserve personnel | 1,000,000 | | 250,000 | |
| Surface-to-air missile (SAM) battalions | 2 | With 8 Hawk and Nike-Hercules batteries | 20 | With 180 SA-2s |
| Medium tanks | 1,000 | M-47s, M-48s, M-60s | 1,000 | 300 T-34s, 700 T-54s/55s and T-59s |
| Light tanks | 0 | | 130 | 80 PT-76s, 50 T-62s |
| Artillery pieces | 2,000 | Up to 203 mm | 3,000 | Up to 152 mm |
| Artillery, other | 1 battalion | With Honest John surface-to-surface missiles (SSMs) | 200 | Self-propelled guns |
| | | | 1,800 | Rocket launchers |
| | | | 12 | FROG SSMs |
| | | | 2,500 | Antiaircraft guns |
| <i>Navy</i> | | | | |
| Active personnel | 20,000 | | 17,000 | |
| Reserve personnel | 33,000 | | 40,000 | |
| Submarines | 0 | | 8 | 4 Soviet W-class, 4 Chinese R-class |
| Patrol boats | 22 | | 18 | 10 Komars with Styx SSMs; 8 Osas with Styx SSMs |
| Destroyers | 7 | | 0 | |
| Destroyer escorts | 9 | | 0 | |
| Minesweepers | 10 | | 0 | |
| Subchasers | 0 | | 15 | |
| Gunboats | 15 | Coastal escorts | 54 | |
| Torpedo boats | 0 | | 90 | |
| Landing ships | 20 | 8 tank, 12 medium | 0 | |
| Amphibious craft | 60 | | 0 | |
| <i>Marines</i> | | | | |
| Active personnel | 20,000 | | 0 | |
| Reserve personnel | 60,000 | | 0 | |
| <i>Air Force</i> | | | | |
| Active personnel | 25,000 | | 40,000 | |
| Reserve personnel | 35,000 | | 40,000 | |
| Combat aircraft | 216 | 70 F-5As, 36 F-4Ds, 100 F-86Fs, 10 RF-5As | 588 | 60 IL-28 bombers, 28 SU-7s, 300 MIG-15s and -17s, 150 MIG-21s, 40 MIG-19s, 10 IL-28 reconnaissance |
| Paramilitary personnel | 2,000,000 | Militia | 1,500,000 50,000 | Militia Internal security and border patrol |

Source: International Institute for Strategic Studies, *The Military Balance, 1975-1976* (London: IISS 1975), p. 56.

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